

Regrettably, the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will be unable to open Lincoln Pool, 1700 Ann St., on Sun., June 17 as previously announced due to an insufficient number of lifeguards.

“We sincerely apologize to the public for not reaching our goal as planned, especially to those who live in the neighborhoods surrounding Lincoln Pool,” said Alan D. McKnight, Director, Columbus Recreation and Parks. “We currently have five lifeguards hired for this particular pool, but we need 10 to comfortably open.”

McKnight said while Columbus City Council graciously provided additional funding in this year’s budget to open three more pools, the department has lost many of its former lifeguarding staff because it has only been operating four pools over the last couple of years and did not need as many guards.

“It’s been a struggle finding new recruits and getting them certified,” said McKnight. “However, we have 10 in the Civil Service system right now and we hope to have them approved and on payroll no later than the middle of next week if at all possible.”

Four of the department’s pools – Dodge (545 Sullivant Ave.), Marion Franklin (2699 Lockbourne Rd.), Tuttle (240 W. Oakland), and Windsor (1300 Windsor Ave.) opened last Sunday. Glenwood (1925 W. Broad St.) and Maryland (1380 Atcheson St.) will still open as scheduled this Sunday at 1:30 pm.

The department’s pools operate from 1:30 pm – 6:30 pm daily except for Tuttle, which is open until 7:30 pm. Admission to the city pools is free, but participants must have an identification leisure card, which can be purchased at any recreation center for only \$1.

The department also operates the Barnett sprayground, 1184 Barnett Rd., every day from noon – 7 pm, as well as the interactive fountain downtown in Bicentennial Park, which is open from 10 am – 10 pm. Both facilities are free as well.